Statement

Forest land for Upper Tunga Project in Karnataka

Sl. No.	State	No. of Approved proposals	Forest land diverted (H.A)
1.	Orissa	8	173.006
2.	Maharashtra	61	2990.628
3.	Rajasthan	5	72.262
4.	Uttaranchal	27	8.211
5.	Gujarat	17	28.2227
6.	Punjab	5	202.388
7.	Andhra Pradesh	8	414.065
8.	Tamil Nadu	10	237.694
9.	Karnataka	6	59.90
10.	Uttar Pradesh	4	404.038
11.	Haryana	3	29.56
12.	Chhattisgarh	1	23.326
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1	4.89
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2	37.00
15.	Kerala	1	0.236
	TOTAL:	159	4685.4267

Conservation of Natural Oasis

†1831. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to take some effective steps for conservation and development of 'Natural Oasis';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures proposed to be taken by Government to protect this scheme of international importance against the administrative negligence?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests have not

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

formulated any specific schemes for the conservation and development of "Natural Oasis".

Elephant menace

1832. SHRI H.K.JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to elephant menace property worth lakhs of rupees was destroyed and human beings were killed in Karnataka during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of loss of property humanities and the amount of compensation paid district-wise during the same project;

(c) whether it is also a fact that living mechanism of compensation is outdated and it is too meagre; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take counter the menace of elephants and other wild animals?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details furnished by the State Government regarding damage caused by wild elephants to human-life and property in Karnataka during the last three years and the compensation paid therefor are given in the Statement enclosed. (See below)

(c) No, Sir. Government of India had advised all the State Governments in December 1999 for increasing the amount of *ex-gratia* payment in case of death caused by wild animals from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 1,00,000. The Government of Karnataka has accepted the advice *vide* its orders dated 12.02.2002. The rate for *ex-gratia* for permanent disability caused by elephants has also been enhanced to Rs. 25,000. The corresponding rates for crop damage have also been revised. Furthermore, the State Government, through its circular dated 11.6.2002,has adopted a uniform procedure for assessing the crop damage by field officers. The power of sanctioning *ex-gratia* relief in respect of human deaths has been delegated to the Divisional Forest Officers. The power of sanctioning *ex-gratia* relief for crop-damage has been delegated to Divisional Forest Officer (up to Rs. 6,000/- in each